



HPW

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q77403

Kenji SERA, et al.

Appln. No.: 10/657,196

Group Art Unit: 1621

Confirmation No.: Unknown

Examiner: William C. VERSPERMAN

Filed: September 9, 2003

For: THIN FILM SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE AND MANUFACTURING METHOD

RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES AND REQUIREMENT FOR RESTRICTION

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The Examiner has identified the application as containing patentably distinct species defined by Groups I-IV and a process of making Groups I-IV defined by Group V. The Examiner has required the Applicant to elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted and further to respond to a restriction requirement between the products defined by Groups I-IV and a process of making defined by Group V. The Examiner believes there are no generic claims. Applicant has been advised that a response to this requirement shall include an identification of the species that is elected and a listing of all claims readable thereon.

In response to the Examiner's requirement for election between Groups I-IV, Applicant elects Species Group III for examination on which claims 21-37, 40, 42, 43, 46, 48 and 50-62 are readable. Further, in response to the Examiner's requirement for restriction between the products of Groups I-IV and the process of making of Group V, Applicant elects the product of Group III for examination. The election of Group III is without traverse.

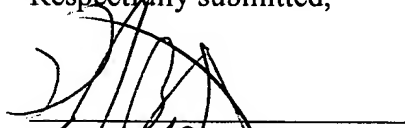
RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES
U.S. Application No. 10/657,196

Applicant submits that if any of the elected claims are found to be allowable, claims dependent therefrom should similarly be considered allowable in the same application.

Applicant reserves the right to file a Divisional Application directed to non-elected claims 1-10, 12, 13, 15, 16, 17, 18, 20, 38, 39, 41, 44, 45 and 49.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,


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CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: January 28, 2005